IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-16.   (Cancelled)

17.   (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

receiving a question associated with a listing for an item during an auction price-setting process;

receiving an indication from a seller to authorize provision of an answer to the question; and

selectively providing the answer to the question based on the indication.

18.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, the receiving of the question including receiving the question over a communications network.

19.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, the receiving of the question including receiving the question via an electronic mail message.

20.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, including receiving the question from a bidder.

21.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, including receiving the question from the seller.

22.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, comprising providing the question in conjunction with the providing of the answer.

23.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, the providing of the question including publishing the question on the listing for the item.

24.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, the providing of the answer including providing the answer over a communications network.

25.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, the providing of the answer including providing the answer via an electronic mail message.

26.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, the providing of the answer including publishing the answer on the listing for the item.

27.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, comprising receiving the answer from the seller over a communications network.

28.   (Previously Presented) A system comprising:
        a processor coupled to a memory through a bus; and
        an auction price-setting process executed from the memory by the processor to cause the processor to
                receive a question associated with a listing for an item during the auction price-setting process,
                receive an indication from a seller to authorize provision of an answer to the question, and
                selectively provide the answer to the question based on the indication.

29.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, the question being received over a communications network.

30.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29, the question being received via an electronic mail message.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.111
Serial Number:10/749,431
Filing Date: December 30, 2003
Title: SELLER-CONTROLLED PUBLICATION OF QUESTION AND ANSWER SETS

Page 4
Dkt: 2043.101US1

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 29, the question being received from a bidder.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, the auction price-setting process causing the processor to provide the question in conjunction with the providing of the answer.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, including publishing on the listing for the item at least one of the question or the answer.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 28, including providing the answer over a communications network.

35. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

means for receiving a question associated with a listing for an item during an auction price-setting process:[[,]]

means for receiving an indication from a seller to authorize provision of an answer to the question:[[,]] and

means for selectively providing the answer to the question based on the indication.

36. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable medium comprising instructions, which when implemented by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the following operations:

receiving a question associated with a listing for an item during an auction price-setting process;

receiving an indication from a seller to authorize provision of an answer to the question; and

selectively providing the answer to the question based on the indication.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.111
Serial Number:10/749,431
Filing Date: December 30, 2003
Title: SELLER-CONTROLLED PUBLICATION OF QUESTION AND ANSWER SETS

Page 5
Dkt: 2043.101US1

37.   (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

receiving from a seller a listing to be associated with an auction price-setting process;

analyzing the listing; and

providing to the seller a suggestion for updating the listing, the suggestion being based on the analyzing of the listing.

38.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 37, comprising receiving from the seller a determination relating to the suggestion and updating the listing in accordance with the determination.

39.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 37, the analyzing including checking at least one of a field, a setting, a text format, a word count, a keyword, an image, a pricing strategy, or an identification number associated with the listing.

40.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 39, the analyzing including checking a vehicle identification number against a vehicle history database to check for at least one of validity data, insurance data, title data, or odometer data.

41.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 40, the checking including communicating with a remote vehicle history database over a communications network.